

a<sub>1</sub>  
Cub B.7

1. (amended) A brass alloy, consisting, by weight, essentially of:

from 5% to 25% [2% to the maximum that maintains an alpha brass microstructure] of zinc;

from 0.3% [0.2%] to 2% nickel;

from 0.15% to 1% tin;

from 0.03% to 0.35% phosphorous with a nickel to phosphorous weight ratio, Ni:P, of from 3.5:1 to 7.5:1;

less than 0.1%, each, of silicon and beryllium; and

the balance copper and inevitable impurities.

a<sub>2</sub>

3. (amended) The brass alloy of claim [2] 1 wherein said nickel and said phosphorous are present in an amount effective to provide a nickel:phosphorous weight ratio of about 5:1.

4. (amended) The brass alloy of claim [2] 1 further including between 0.07% and 0.12% of iron.

5. (amended) The brass alloy of claim [2] 1 further including from about 2 ppm to about 50 ppm of oxygen, sulphur, carbon or a mixture thereof.

6. (amended) The copper alloy of claim [2] 1 wherein said zinc is present in an amount from 8% to 25%.

a<sub>3</sub>

13. (amended) An electrical connector having a conductivity in excess of 25% IACS [and a resistance to stress relaxation at 125°C operating temperature] formed from the alloy of claim 6.

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14. (amended) An electrical connector having an electrical conductivity in excess of 25% IACS [and a resistance to stress relaxation at 125°C operating temperature] formed from the alloy of claim 8.